

The Implementation and Coordination of Agricultural Research and Training (ICART) in Southern Africa

Land & Water Management Programme
Workshop on Curriculum Development
Boipuso Hall, Gaborone
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Introduction

- Project is housed within the Directorate of Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources (FANR) within the SADC Secretariat
- EU supported to the tune of € 15 million
- 5 year project (2006 – 2010)
- Project Coordination Unit (PCU) is partly operational



Overall Objectives

Contribute to regional **economy growth** and **poverty alleviation** by **promoting innovative research and training** activities to overcome the constraints to **sustainable use of natural resources** with **improved technologies** and **policies** that will **enable resource-poor** smallholders to **achieve improvements** in their livelihoods.



Project Purpose

Improve NARS *capacity* to manage research networks, implement common research and develop regional opportunities *addressing regional constraints* for *improving incomes of small-scale farmers and other end-users* in the SADC region



Main components

- The ICART project is composed of **four** components with **six** main result areas
- **Component A:** Institutional support to the SADC Secretariat (€3.60 million)
- **Component B:** Support to Research Networks (RN) development (€2.95 million)
- **Component C:** Regional Research Projects to be implemented through mechanisms of competitive grant funds (€5.60 million)
- **Component D:** Specific activities of Information, Communication and Training (€2.35 million)



Situation Analysis of Agricultural Research & Training - Purpose

1. To build up knowledge base at SADC Secretariat on Agricultural Research in the region
2. Establish an electronic information system on Agricultural research and training in the region for use by SADC and member states (continuously consolidated thereafter)
3. Start the process of analysis of RDT interventions in the region to facilitate dialogue on these issues
4. Provide background material for the development of a strategy to support networking in Agricultural research and training in the region



Situation Analysis of Agricultural Research & Training - Approach

Phased Approach:

- Desk study of institutional details
- Short country visits by consultants (quick overview, considered too short by National Focal Points [NFP])
- National consultants carried out study to produce a county report (validated at a small workshop)
- Consultants from Phase 2, back to produce a regional synthesis document, based on country reports; prepare a strategy document for support to regional research networks (workshops with FANR and NFP)



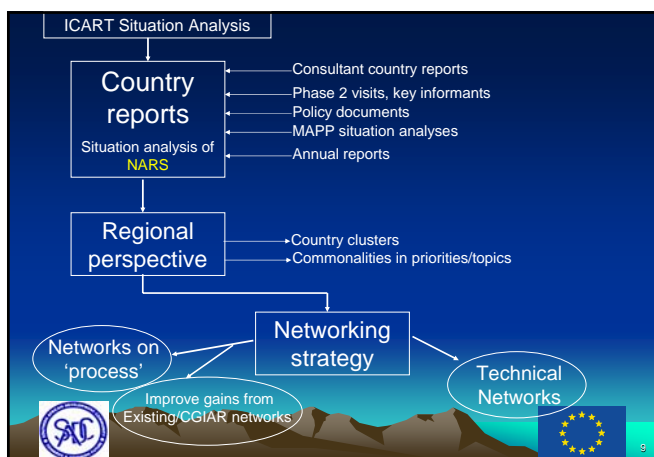
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Support to regional research networks under ICART (2008-2010)

- Support to Agricultural Research has been provided for under the Competitive Regional Agricultural Research Funds (ICART-CRARF) – Call for proposals launched in Nov 2005, 7 grants awarded in Nov 2006
- Support to Agricultural Training has been provided for under the Regional Training Programme (ICART-RTP) – Call for proposals launched in Feb 2006, 4 grants awarded in Nov 2006
- Network support focus is on Information Exchange to facilitate collaboration among regional members leading to proposals for joint interventions



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Situation Analysis of Agricultural Research & Training - Proposals

1. Support 'process-type' network: "Networking on reducing gaps between farmers' needs and Technology development" (new network)
2. Support 'technical-type' network: "Land and Water Management" (existing network?)
3. Develop/facilitate networking capacity between NARS institutions and existing regional & international research networks
4. New networking activities arising from already supported research programmes



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Land and Water Network - Future?

In the context of the L&W M Programme Results:

- Regional R&D information exchange network established
- Regional R&D coordination network established
- Development of a programme exit strategy

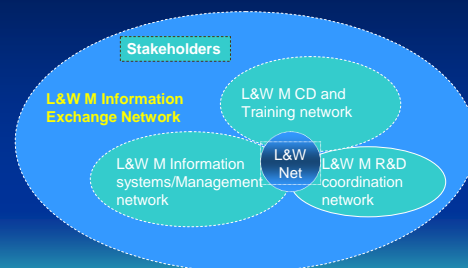
Some issues:

- Definition of the Network entity – Identity, purpose, management, leadership, membership
- Proposals for support will have to come from the network



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Land and Water Network – Proposed conceptual model



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